

PORTLAND INQUIRER.

AUSTIN WILLEY, EDITOR,
BROWN THURSTON, PUBLISHER.

All Men are Created Equal.—Declaration of Independence.

VOL. X.

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PORTLAND INQUIRER.

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or to the PUBLISHER, and both, per
RATES.

REV. DAVID STARRET.

Extracts from a discourse delivered at Augusta, April 5, 1851, at the interment of Rev. David Starret, and published at the request of the family. By Rev. David Thurston, Pastor of a church in Winthrop.

1st. *Thessalonians, 5, 10:—Christ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we live together with him.*

After discussing the subject of the immortality of the soul and the necessity of the death of Christ, some account of the deceased was given.

Rev. David Starret was born in Warren in this State, March 6, 1790. His early Christian privileges were small. His parents, though moral and reputable persons, had no claim to evangelical piety. Indeed, there were few in the place at that time, who did. The style of preaching there was not such as God ordinarily employs to promote that kind of religion. Experimental piety, so commencing in the heart, which previously to its being renewed by the Holy Spirit, was totally destitute of love to God, was not deemed essential to a standing in the church, or to admission to heaven. Taught, however, from his childhood to respect the minister, he entertained a profound veneration and warm attachment towards the pastor. He had no particular solicitude about his salvation till he was about sixteen years of age. At this time, he read some of the sermons of President Davies, which awakened a considerable interest in his mind respecting his spiritual and eternal welfare. He began to feel that he needed to be the subject of such a change of heart, but he had not been accustomed to hear described in the family or the pulpit. His anxiety for his salvation continued, with different degrees, for about two years. His convictions of the sinfulness of his heart and life were frequently very clear and pungent. He perceived himself to be entirely destitute of holiness and full of sin. The vileness of his character, as a transgressor of God's law, made the divine justice, in his everlasting condemnation, appear most conspicuous. For about two years, he continued struggling to subdue the corrupt propensities of his heart, much in his own strength, and of course without success. Like most other unregenerated persons, "being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish his own righteousness, he did not submit himself to the righteousness of God." Having labored hard to recommend himself to God by his own works; he became fully sensible of his utter ruin; and that, without the interposition of sovereign grace, he should be miserable forever. Of course he was now about eighteen years old. Few as his advantages had been to learn the real nature of true conversion; and to acquire a knowledge of evangelical doctrines, he was led to very discriminating views of the fundamental truths of the bible. He was as fully established in the belief of the distinguishing doctrines of grace, at that time, as at any subsequent period of his life. He learned, from the teachings of the bible and the operations of his own heart, the depravity of human nature; the sovereignty of God in choosing the heirs of salvation, the necessity of a renovation of heart by the special influence of the Holy Spirit; the atonement of the divine Saviour, as the only ground of the sinner's forgiveness and acceptance with God; and other doctrines connected with them.

Cherishing the belief that he had become a disciple of Christ, he was desirous of obeying his commands, of confessing him before men. He found no small trial of his love to the Saviour. Much as he had been attached to the pastor, such was the state of experimental piety in the church, that he could not think of uniting with them. He was constrained by a sense of duty to go into a neighboring town publicly to profess his faith in Christ, and unite with a church whose members could sympathize with his religious views and feelings.

He had an earnest desire that others should become partners in the same grace of God, in which he trusted he had begun to share. The consideration that there was a great want of more evangelical religious teachers and that few were preparing for the ministry, excited a desire in him to devote himself to that high and holy calling. But having no design to rush headlong into the solemn work; nor until he could attain suitable qualifications, he sought to obtain a collegiate education. But in this his venerable parents were not disposed to concur. Not approach-

ing of his religious course, they declined offering him any assistance in educating him himself for the ministry. He could not, however, willingly relinquish the object upon which his heart was strongly set. Encouraged by some christian friends, after arriving at the age of twenty-one, he commenced a course of study preparatory to entering college. In 1812 he was drafted a soldier for the war, then existing between this country and Great Britain. But unwilling to leave his studies for such a hateful service, he expressed his wish, he took his bundle and walked to Andover, Mass., and entered Phillips' Academy. Subsequently to this, he passed nearly a year in Franconia, N. H. This was a highly favored period of his life. A powerful and extensive work of divine grace was wrought during his residence there. One interesting result of which was an accession to the number of one hundred and twelve persons at one time. After returning to Maine and pursuing his studies further at the Academy in Newcastle, he was admitted a member of Bowdoin College in 1814. Not being as well fitted as most of his classmates, he felt constrained to apply himself intensely. For a considerable time, he daily devoted sixteen hours out of the twenty-four to his studies. To provide means to defray his expenses made it necessary for him to be absent from college more or less during term time. His Heavenly Father smiled upon his efforts. He had the peculiar satisfaction of being instrumental of several revivals of religion. In every school he instructed, during his connection with college, some of his pupils were hopelessly converted. Quite a number of those, who were the subjects of renewing grace, became teachers themselves. Two interesting revivals of religion occurred in college during his residence there, in which he took an active part. Several of his classmates were hopeful subjects of renewing grace during these times of refreshing; a number of whom are exercising the ministry of reconciliation. The first Sabbath School established in Brunswick was principally through his instrumentalities. In the course of the first year, they secured the attendance of 200 pupils. After his graduation in 1818, he studied Theology for a season, and became a licentiate of the Kennebec Association, May 12, 1819, with the understanding that he was to confine his theological studies still longer. This he did, preaching some in the destitute places in vicinity. September 25, 1824, he was ordained pastor of the church in Wiscasset. A difficulty arose from what he understood to be the duty of members of the church and the proper course of discipline, which resulted in his dismission in 1827. Here it may be remarked, that he has been under an injurious imputation, occasioned by a misapprehension of facts. He expected more from men professing Godliness than from men of the world. It has been alleged that he often had difficulties, as though he was of a contentious spirit. But he was not a quaresome man. For he had no controversy with men out of the church. The true state of the case is this. His views of correct Christian practice and discipline were more strict than are generally entertained. Hence he could not live quietly, while members of the church were openly violating their covenant engagements. His efforts to bring delinquent members to what he considered, and that correctly, to be the Scriptural standard, occasioned dissatisfaction, which terminated in alienation. Whether he always took the most judicious course in such cases, would question. He had no claim to infallibility of judgment. No one was more sensible of his deficiencies, or liability to mistake. But there is satisfactory evidence that he aimed to act "in all good conscience."

After he left Wiscasset, he labored in several places, particularly in Swanville and Harpswell. In the course of fourteen months, in the latter place, besides preaching, he visited all the families on the main three times, and on three of the Islands belonging to that town, once. A considerable number were awakened.

October 1, 1825, he was installed over that little, but beloved branch of the church of our Redeemer, at Litchfield Corner. The members were few and the state of religious feeling was languid. The young people were very unmindful of their spiritual interests. His own mind became deeply affected in view of the existing state of things.

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NEW ORLEANS, JUNE 20.—Creswell, an enterprising Negro, died yesterday, and in his will he left all his slaves, who numbered 91. The will, it is said, will be probated.

The late rains throughout the State have greatly damaged the cotton crop, and a large yield is anticipated.

Conscience will speak at last, however decided and deserved for a time. If the moral sentiment and action of the country would speak as that man's conscience did when on the verge of the grave, slavery would soon be abolished.

A NEW BUD?—The Mirror says it contract for publishing by "Authority" has expired, and if we understand its meaning, invites a new job. Of course, being "heard at court" it argues that it is the best medium, defends the administration, thinks it was selected because it supported the N. E. Boundary settlement (ha, ha) and—what was indispensable—"pays the requisite attention, and without any "vinegar" at all, to the Inquirer, and closes by saying, "kick 'em on." Mr. Advertiser, your case is hopeless for next year's printing.

"EHP" We call the attention of our readers to the printed envelopes advertised in another column. The sight of them will prove their importance upon the public mind.

RATON ISLAND LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature of Rhode Island adjourned on Saturday, after a session of four days and a half, at New- port. A bill of amendment of business was transacted, and a number of other measures. Among other resolutions passed was one authorizing the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to ascertain the number of the number of persons employed in manufacturing establishments under the ages of 15, 12, and 9 years respectively, who are employed in the manufacture of labor, the number of months they are employed, and the extent they are deprived of the benefit of their schools. The School Delit Law was passed with such liberal amendments, and one important one, that the ballot boxes should be exposed before the polling commences.

TRUMAN'S EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE IN JANES CITY.—On Saturday, at nine o'clock, a pyrotechnical establishment, in the principal street near Barrow, was suddenly blown up, killing 12 persons. Mr. James Davis, owner of the laboratory, who was in the establishment at the time of the explosion, was severely injured. The Secret Delit Law was passed with such liberal amendments, and one important one, that the ballot boxes should be exposed before the polling commences.

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA.—The Shellfield Independent says that the slaves have determined on a great and systematic attack to overturn England to Mormonism. They are at this moment adding to their churches, by adual baptism, upwards of 1000 persons every month. So confident are they, that they propose to hold a great Mormon Conference in London, in the month of June.

THE MORNING CALL.—Henry Box Brown, who escaped from slavery at 9 o'clock in a box, is exhibiting throughout England and the principal cities. He has the identical box with him, and is packed in it and went from Bradford to Liverpool, and from Liverpool to the box still containing Brown was placed in a coach and proceeded by a band of music and a banner to the principal church in the city of America, passed through the principal streets of the town. After he had been confined in the box for two hours and three quarters, he was taken out in the presence of a few spectators.

ARROOSTOK PORTLAND.—A correspondent of the Portland Inquirer, writing from Maple Ridge, Arroostok County, states that people who will not be taxed, will not be taxed, will pay it to steamboat, from Portland, in the way of the St. John river. A steamboat runs regularly up to Toluque, six miles from Portland, and carries up to Toluque, from any of our correspondents furnish us with information relative to the fare by route, and its advantages compared with the stage routes from Bangor to Castine.—*Portland*.

CHESTERIAN ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.—This convention will be recollected to be held at Chester, and on the 3d of July last, but we were uncertain as to the date of the topics of discussion will be the separation of the church from slavery. The call embraces Christians.

THE STATE STATES that arrangements are made on the different lines of travel, to carry members of this convention to and fro, at reduced rates. Arrangements are already completed for carrying delegates from Cleveland to Chicago for \$1.00 (paid) making \$1.00 both ways.

PROVIDENCE, JUNE 16.—This morning between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock, a German, by the name of Wm. Haunigan, residing in Showtown, a part of the city chiefly inhabited by Germans, was shot dead by a negro, who was riding a horse, and was shot in the way of the St. John river. A steamboat runs regularly up to Toluque, six miles from Portland, and carries up to Toluque, from any of our correspondents furnish us with information relative to the fare by route, and its advantages compared with the stage routes from Bangor to Castine.—*Portland*.

THE DETROIT TRIBUNE estimates the wool crop of Michigan for the present year at \$700,000,000 in value. We think this figure considerably too high.

The wool crop of 1853, is at least one-fourth more than that of 1850, perhaps more. As one-fourth, the surplus for export would be 3,500,000 pounds, worth at 7-1/2 cents, \$14,000,000, or double the Tribune's figure.—*Michigan Herald*.

BENSON ON GALTENAS.—The Advertiser of the 5th, gives some statistics concerning the increasing importance of that place. During the months of April and May, 3000 bales of wool were shipped; 1000 more remain in store; the value of the wool is \$100,000. Value of wool received for shipment, \$40,000. Value of wool per month past, 1,500,000 shingles, valued at \$3000 per thousand. The steamship factor of the wool is about 1,000,000 per day.

EVANS & CO.'S TANQUERAY.—The wheat crop for 1853, was about 10,000,000 bushels more than that of 1850, perhaps more. As one-fourth, the surplus for export would be 3,500,000 bushels, worth at 7-1/2 cents, \$14,000,000, or double the Tribune's figure.—*Michigan Herald*.

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ANecdote of JENNY LIND.—The following anecdote, told by the Berks and Schuyler Journal, of a scene in one of Miss Lind's concert performances, is very interesting.

"A new piece, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, by name, on the stage sofa, and sat down on the piano to execute a Fantasy by Thalberg. He is a young man, of modest bearing, and we presume that the audience showed their admiration of his talents. A few who, however, though a long and difficult one, was not of a character to interest the uneducated ear, and it was evident that the audience had not been won over to his performance. It was the performance's appearance, and he was of course, extremely mortified and embarrassed. Every one expected that he would be called off the stage. At that moment the house of Wels & Co., was dreadfully burned, and for a time his life was in extreme jeopardy; he is now convalescent.

The cholera exists to some extent at Port Lawrence. Twenty cases had occurred among a regiment of U. S. troops bound to South Africa, and two of them died.

The Detroit Tribune says—

"We have recently travelled in eleven countries, and found the wheat crop in every country more than twice as large as that of 1850.

"A man travelling in Florida, says of the mosquitoes: "Let a man go to sleep with his head in a cast-iron kettle, and those hills will make a watering pot of it before morning."

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE CRESCENT CITY.

\$2,500,000 IN GOLD.

Particulars of the great Conflagration at San Francisco.

The Crescent City arrived at New York, 15th inst., with 500 passengers, and 1500 freight to May 1st, when fully confirm the disastrous intelligence before brought to the grave.

The Steamers on the Pacific side brought down two and a half million in gold dust. The California masts were left on the lethas.

The San Francisco papers are filled, to the exclusion of almost all other news, with the details of the late fire, which will be fully interesting.

The 4th of May, the day on the anniversary of the great conflagration in San Francisco.

On one fair city has been visited again with the scourge of fire. The fire commenced on Saturday, the 3d of May, a few minutes after 11, in the upholsterer's shop of Mr. & Mrs. Moseley on the south side of the Plaza. In a short time the combustible materials of which it was composed were in full blaze.

The bold startled the citizens from their beds, and brought the firemen to the spot in a few minutes. The fire had already spread over the Monuments and the fire a steady stream, but, also to no purpose.

The flames spread up Clay street, carrying all before them, and the smoke and flames of the burning houses were visible at the side of Jacks & Brothers old store.

The fire spread rapidly, with the exception of the Clay and Kearney streets, was wrapped in smoke.

From the fire, the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, and his Assistant were both

on the spot, and the firemen were without a head to guide and direct them with authority.

Unfortunately, this disastrous fire befell our city on Saturday night, when a few hours previous to the beginning, more than 20 squares existed on fire, and the smoke and fire were visible over the entire city.

A number of our city officials had already

left town, and were not to be found.

The firemen worked like heroes at the peril of their lives; but their exertions were utterly powerless to stop the flames.

Many of the thickest walls and iron doors and shutters, built with a special view to make them fire proof, formed no exception to the fire, and were easily destroyed.

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